December

2005

State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance

REPLACEMENT OF UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS PROGRAM

LEGISLATIVE ANNUAL REPORT

New Series No. 2 December 2005 State Water Resources Control Board

Summary

The Replacement of Underground Storage Tanks (RUST) Program provides low-interest, small business loans (ranging from \$10,000 to \$750,000) to help replace, remove, and repair underground storage tanks (USTs) in order to meet regulatory standards and take corrective actions. Subsequent legislation has expanded the RUST Program to enable small and disadvantaged businesses to obtain grants (ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000) for required UST and UST-related upgrades. The following information is based on State Water Resources Control Board RUST Program records through June 30, 2005.

Loans, Grants, and Resultant Tanks Removed/Upgraded

During fiscal year 2004-2005, the RUST Program issued: 22 loans totaling \$5,661,565, with an average loan amount of \$257,344; and 62 grants totaling \$2,230,206, with an average grant amount of \$35,970. These loans and grants enabled recipients to remove/upgrade 228 USTs and preserve 662 jobs.

Characteristics of Grant and Loan Recipients

The loan and grant applications include questions that identify the gender, ethnicity, business type, and legal business structure of the applicant. The following charts summarize these characteristics:

Chart 1. Applicant's Gender

GENDER OF APPLICANT	2004-05 TOTAL
Male	60
Female	6
Joint Filings	18

Chart 2. Applicant's Ethnicity*

ETHNICITY	2004-05 TOTAL
White	43
Asian/ Pacific Islander	10
Hispanic	1
African-American	0
East Indian	10
Other	6
Not Reported	14

^{*}This question was optional and all applicants did not respond

Chart 3. Business Types

BUSINESS TYPES	2004-05 TOTAL	
Gas Sales	9	
Gas & Auto Repair	13	
Gas & Mini Mart	59	
Boat Marina	1	
Cardlock	2	

Chart 4. Applicant's Legal Business Structure

LEGAL STRUCTURE	2004-05 TOTAL		
Sole Proprietorship	41		·
Corporation	3.0		
Partnership	8		
Individual	. 2		
Limited Liability Company	2		
Trust	1	 	

Administrative Costs

The state operating expenditures for the RUST Program totaled \$280,000 in FY 2004/2005. These expenditures are for servicing and collection costs. Servicing costs include processing and accounting for new and existing loans and grants and depositing of monthly payments. Collection costs include pursuing delinquent borrowers and enforcement of contract provisions that ensure loan repayment.

Conclusion

The RUST Program has helped independent gas retailers, which cannot otherwise afford the expense associated with required UST upgrades and/or removal, to remain in business. The success of the RUST Program has helped protect California's drinking water from contaminants, including MTBE, and ensured that necessary fuel supplies, particularly in rural areas, are maintained.



State Water Resources Control Board



Executive Office

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Arnold Schwarzenegger Governor

MAR 3 2006

Mr. Gregory Schmidt Secretary of the Senate State Capitol, Room 3044 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Pursuant to provisions required in Chapter 6.76, section 25299.112 of the California Health and Safety Code, enclosed is a copy of the 2005 Legislative Annual Report describing the performance of the Replacement of Underground Storage Tanks Program.

Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Ron Duff, Fund Manager, Division of Financial Assistance, at (916) 341-5353 or Mr. David Ceccarelli, Staff Services Manager I, at (916) 341-5671.

Sincerely

Executive Director

Enclosure

cc: Honorable Joe Simitian, Chair Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol, Room 4062 Sacramento, California 95814

> Honorable George Runner, Vice Chair Senate Environmental Quality Committee State Capitol, Room 4066 Sacramento, California 95814

Honorable Ira Ruskin, Chair Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee State Capitol, Room 4139 Sacramento, California 95814

Honorable Van Tran, Vice Chair Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee State Capitol, Room 4009 Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Richard Costigan, Legislative Secretary Governor's Office State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Elizabeth G. Hill, Legislative Analyst Legislative Analyst's Office 925 L Street, Suite 1000 Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. David S. Harper Department of Finance State Capitol, Room 1145 Sacramento, California 95814

Ms. Susan Hildreth, State Librarian Library & Courts Building Sacramento, California 95814



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MAR 3 2006

Mr. E. Dotson Wilson Chief Clerk of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 3196 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Wilson:

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